Dear Miss Damen:

Manuscript ID BMJ.2015.031028.R1 entitled “Prediction models for cardiovascular disease risk in the general population: a systematic review” which you submitted to BMJ,

Thank you for sending us your paper. We are pleased to say that we would like to publish it in the BMJ as long you are willing and able to revise your paper as suggested in the report by prof. Cole. We are provisionally offering acceptance but will make the final decision when we see the revised version. The report from the manuscript meeting, the comments from the reviewers and general requirements for submission are available at the end of this letter.

We are looking forward to reading the revised manuscript and, we hope, making a final acceptance decision.

Please note that the BMJ might choose to shorten content or replace or re-size images for the print issue.

https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/bmj?URL_MASK=e8d19a4fe7f148a59d547adc48d325f5

Yours sincerely

dr. Wim Weber
European editor, The BMJ
wweber@bmj.com,

** Comments from the external peer reviewers**

REFEREE COMMENTS

Reviewer: 1

Recommendation:

Comments:
The authors have addressed all the reviewer points to my satisfaction. I have two extremely minor further observations.

1. Page 15 line 435 includes three citations with full names that can be omitted.

2. The last line of Table 4 gives the range of observed/expected ratios. Including the median as well would be useful.

Additional Questions:
Please enter your name: Tim Cole

Job Title: Professor of medical statistics

Institution: UCL Institute of Child Health

Reimbursement for attending a symposium?: Yes

A fee for speaking?: No

A fee for organising education?: No

Funds for research?: No

Funds for a member of staff?: No

Fees for consulting?: No

Have you in the past five years been employed by an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this paper?: No
Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this paper?: No

If you have any competing interests (please see BMJ policy) please declare them here:

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Deadline: Your revised manuscript should be returned within one month.

How to submit your revised article: Log into http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/bmj and enter your Author Center, where you will find your manuscript title listed under "Manuscripts with Decisions." Under "Actions," click on "Create a Revision." Your manuscript number has been appended to denote a revision.

You will be unable to make your revisions on the originally submitted version of the manuscript. Instead, revise your manuscript using a word processing program and save it on your computer. Once the revised manuscript is prepared, you can upload it and submit it through your Author Center. When submitting your revised manuscript, you will be able to respond to the comments made by the reviewer(s) and Committee in the space provided. You can use this space to document any changes you make to the original manuscript and to explain your responses. In order to expedite the processing of the revised manuscript, please be as specific as possible in your response to the reviewer(s). As well as submitting your revised manuscript, we also require a copy of the manuscript with changes highlighted. Please upload this as a supplemental file with file designation 'Revised Manuscript Marked copy'. Your original files are available to you when you upload your revised manuscript. Please delete any redundant files before completing the submission.

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i. For a clinical trial: Absolute event rates among experimental and control groups; RRR (relative risk reduction); NNT or NNH (number needed to treat or harm) and its 95% confidence interval (or, if the trial is of a public health intervention, number helped per 1000 or 100,000.)

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iii. For a case control study: OR (odds ratio) for strength of association between exposure and outcome.

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For articles that include explicit statements of the quality of evidence and strength of recommendations, we prefer reporting using the GRADE system.

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g. Footnotes and statements

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**Date Sent**: 15-Apr-2016